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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/487,522	01/19/2000	Bahram G. Kermani	KERMANI-43	3260

7590 12/17/2003

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EXAMINER

SINGH, RACHNA

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2176

DATE MAILED: 12/17/2003

4

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

28

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/487,522

Applicant(s)

KERMANI, BAHRAM G.

Examiner

Rachna Singh

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 January 2000.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-29 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-29 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 2.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to communications: Application filed 1/19/00.
2. Claims 1-29 are pending in the case. Claims 1, 9, 16, and 23 are independent claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Grefenstette, US Patent 6,289,304 B1, 11/11/01 (filed 3/17/99).

In reference to claim 1, Grefenstette teaches a text summarization using part-of-speech data. Grefenstette teaches the following:

-Receiving a signal from a user input device selecting one of a set of parts of speech removal criteria to obtain summarized text data defining a summarized version of the text. See column 2, lines 32-64 and column 12, lines 25-30. Compare to ***"prompting a user to select at least one abstracted version of the electronic document; selecting a set of instructions for abstracting the electronic document"***.

-Using the input text data and user selection to tokenize the text and obtaining part-of-speech data indicating parts of speech for tokens in the text of each of the tokenized sentences. Using the part-of-speech data for each tokenized sentence to obtain group data for the sentence indicating one or more groups of consecutive tokens of text and

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indicating any tokens that meet the part of speech removal criterion. Using the group data for each sentence to obtain summarized text data defining a summarized version of the text for the sentence in which tokens in each group are indicated as meeting the removal criterion are removed. Presenting the summarized version of the text. See columns 2-3 and column 12, lines 9-32. Compare to ***“creating the abstracted version of the electronic document by executing the selected set of instructions; and outputting the abstracted version of the electronic document in a predetermined format”***.

Grefenstette teaches summarizing text according to a selection by the user.

Grefenstette's "removal criteria" executes a list of instructions to remove certain parts of speech and acts as the claimed "list of instructions". While Grefenstette does not state "prompting" the user for the selection, he does teach receiving a user's signal via traditional input techniques, thus it would have been obvious to prompt the user for a selection as it was well known in the art at the time of the invention for one of ordinary skill in the art to receive a prompt requesting an input. See column 2, lines 56-64 and column 6.

In reference to claim 2, Grefenstette teaches that the "removal criteria" (i.e. instructions) are specific to each document. See column 2, lines 15-31.

In reference to claim 3, Grefenstette teaches that executing the "removal criteria" creates a summarized version of the text. See column 2, lines 15-64.

In reference to claim 4, Grefenstette teaches that the user's selection of removal criteria is specific to each document or text group. See column 2.

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In reference to claims 5-8, Grefenstette teaches that the set of instructions or removal criteria can be specified to remove various parts-of-speech such as verbs, articles, adverbs, and adjectives. See column 2, lines 32-44 and column 5, lines 29-49.

Claims 9-15 are rejected under the same rationale used above in claims 1-2 and 4-8 respectively.

Claims 16-22 are rejected under the same rationale used above in claims 1-2 and 4-8 respectively.

Claim 23 is rejected under the same rationale as claim 1 above.

In reference to claim 24, Grefenstette teaches that the "removal criteria" (i.e. instructions) are specific to each document. See column 2, lines 15-31.

In reference to claim 25, Grefenstette teaches that the user's selection of removal criteria is specific to each document or text group. See column 2.

In reference to claims 26-28, Grefenstette teaches that the set of instructions or removal criteria can be specified to remove various parts-of-speech such as verbs, articles, adverbs, and adjectives. See column 2, lines 32-44 and column 5, lines 29-49.

Conclusion

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Lu et al. US Patent 5,819,260

Nakao US Patent 6,205,456

He et al. US Patent 6,557,042

Herz US Patent 6,460,036

Weeks US Patent 6,334,132


Bruckner US Patent 6,401,086

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Rachna Singh whose telephone number is 703.305.1952. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8:30-5).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Joseph Feild can be reached on 703.305.9792. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703.872.9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703.305.3900.

RS
12/11/03


JOSEPH H. FEILD
PRIMARY EXAMINER